

is with tremendous pride and genuine affection that I salute the great spirit, intelligence, and wit of Jeanette Rudy. She honors us all daily with her friendship and love.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST NATIONAL PUERTO RICAN PARADE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 1996

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great joy that I rise today to pay tribute to an historic event, the first National Puerto Rican Parade which was held on June 9, in New York City.

As a Puerto Rican, a New Yorker, and a Member of Congress, it was an honor to participate in this national parade in which thousands of Puerto Ricans marched in celebration of our culture and achievements in this country.

I was 7 years old when my family moved from Puerto Rico to the Bronx in search of employment opportunities and a brighter future.

Leaving the beautiful island of Puerto Rico, its music, its traditions, and its people was no easy task for those who were born on the Caribbean island.

In 1958, my father and I had the opportunity to celebrate our culture during the first Hispanic parade of New York City. As we cheered participants, my father quickly unfolded a Puerto Rican flag to show his love and pride for his heritage.

Two years later, the Hispanic parade became the New York Puerto Rican Parade. From that day on, once every year, Puerto Ricans and friends of the Puerto Rican community from all of the 50 States and the island come to New York City to celebrate our heritage.

This year, for the first time in its 39 years of history, the parade has been recognized as a national event—the largest and most colorful celebration of Puerto Rican heritage in this Nation.

On this occasion, members of the Puerto Rican community will march along Fifth Avenue in Manhattan to reaffirm our identity and pride of our heritage. Among many other achievements, Puerto Ricans have been instrumental in transforming New York City into a great bilingual city.

Dr. Ricardo Alegría, a distinguished Puerto Rican anthropologist led the parade of thousands of participants. Dr. Alegría is internationally renowned as an eminence in the restoration of historic cities, for his anthropological and archaeological studies on Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, as well as for his patronage of the arts.

TRIBUTE TO MACON COUNTY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a beautiful and successful county in my district. Natural beauty resides in Macon County at such places as Union Camp Water-

fall and Winding Stairs, a natural rock formation, true to its name, that was used by Indians long ago.

The success of Macon County stems from its people's ingenuity. In an area known for tobacco, farmers there are turning to alternative crops such as strawberries, Christmas trees, tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, blackberries, grapes, and more. Macon County farmers are now competing with growers in California and Florida.

Macon County is composed of hard-working people with the desire to be the best. Among other honors, the Macon County Fair has twice been named Best Small Fair by the Annual Tennessee Association of Fairs Convention. Macon Countian Ronald Jenkins is the Tennessee Lion of the Year, while his Lion's Club is ranked third in the State.

Macon County was created by necessity. In 1837, the two closest county seats, that of Sumner County and Smith County, were both 25 miles away. That year the State legislature created Macon County, named for statesman Nathaniel Macon. Lafayette is the county seat.

The citizens of this county have always sought to do their best with what has been given them. To these citizens, I wish continued success and the best life has to offer.

HONORING THE CITY OF HOBOKEN: BIRTHPLACE OF OUR NATION'S PASTIME

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 1996

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Hoboken, the birthplace of our national pastime. On June 19, 1996, the City of Hoboken as well as the entire Nation will celebrate the 150th anniversary of baseball. On this day of joyous celebration, the city will conduct a variety of activities, including a parade and awards dinner to commemorate the origins of baseball.

The game of baseball was born on June 19, 1846, on the Elysian Fields in Hoboken. On that day, the Knickerbockers squared off against the New York Nine and the Knickerbockers lost the game 23 to 1. The first newspaper account of a baseball game was actually written the previous year when other participants gathered in Hoboken on the same field to play an intramural variation of the game.

The official birthday of the sport is considered to be in 1846, however, baseball was played in different forms in Hoboken prior to that date. Alexander Joy Cartwright, Jr. of Hoboken, has been recognized by many as one of the initial inventors of the rules of baseball. Thus, the tradition of baseball was established on the banks of the Hudson River in Hoboken, NJ.

Organized baseball has been played in Hoboken ever since that very first game. Citizens of Hoboken have long contributed to the rich tradition of the sport of baseball by lending their support to the game in a variety of fashions. The youth of Hoboken have enjoyed the opportunities that the public parks and fields have provided for their recreational uses. From the success of Hoboken's Little League program to the well-documented achievements

of its high school teams, baseball has since been an essential part of the city's culture.

Moreover, many of our modern day heroes all share a piece of the tradition that was established on the Elysian Fields in Hoboken. It is with great pleasure and admiration that I honor the City of Hoboken and its great people.

JOE ALLEN, A SPECIAL SON OF KEY WEST

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 1996

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, among its many favorite sons, Key West regards Joe Allen with special affection. Not only has he been an outstanding public servant, he is also the unofficial historian of a city which takes its historical heritage very seriously.

This year there is a special facet of Joe's life, to which I would like to bring your attention. It is a romance which began 50 years ago. While serving a brief tour of duty in his home waters helping to track down enemy submarines, which imperiled our ships off the Florida Keys, Joe met Marjorie Holladay of Columbia, KY. At the time, Ms. Holladay had been affiliated with the women of the U.S. Naval Reserve—WAVES.

Now after 50 years of happily married life, Joe and Marjorie will celebrate their anniversary on June 21 at the old Civil War fort on Monroe Court Beach, now known as the "Joe Allen Garden Center."

Forty of those fifty years have been entwined with a long list of civic and political accomplishments. In addition to serving in the State legislature for 10 years before retiring in 1986, he served 8 years as a Monroe County commissioner and 20 years as tax assessor.

While serving as bicentennial chairman in 1976, he was named 1 of 51 State patriots for outstanding service in the field of historic preservation, particularly the restoration of two pre-Civil War forts, East and West Martello Towers and the designation of the lighthouse in Monroe County as a historic landmark. He is also credited with preserving the national guard armory.

In addition to their heavy involvement in community affairs, Joe and Marjorie Allen are the proud parents of four sons, Joseph B. III, Dr. William N., John H., and Henry B. I hope you will join me in wishing them a joyous 50th and many more to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 1996

Ms. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, during roll-call votes numbered 246 and 247, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "Yes" on rollcall vote 246, and "No" on rollcall vote 247. I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Thank you.